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NOTICE OF SOUTHWEST TEXAS

COMMUNICATIONS FOR TEXAS

UNIVERSAL FUND ELECTION UNDER

16 TAC § 26.407

SOUTHWEST TEXAS

FUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION

OF TEXAS

COMMISSION STAFF'S AMENDED FINAL RECOMMENDATION

COMES NOW the Staff (Staff) of the Public Utility Commission of Texas (Commission), representing the public interest and files this Amended Final Recommendation, and would show the following:

I. BACKGROUND

On December 14, 2018, Southwest Texas Communications filed its written notice of election under 16 Texas Administrative Code (TAC) § 26.407. On February 11, 2019, Southwest Texas Communications filed its annual report with a rate of return of 7.19%.

Pursuant to 16 TAC § 26.407(f)(1)(B), Commission Staff must file a final recommendation on the reported or staff adjusted rate of return within 90 days after the annual report was filed. South Plains filed its annual report on February 11, 2019. Ninety days after February 11, 2019 is May 12, 2019.

On May 10, 2019 Staff filed a request for an extension of time to file its recommendation, which the Administrative Law Judge (ALJ) granted in Order No. 2 on May 20, 2019, extending Staff's deadline to file a recommendation to May 28, 2019. On May 28, 2019, Staff filed its final recommendation.

II. AMENDED FINAL RECOMMENDATION

Staff files this amended recommendation in order to correct errata in the memorandum attached to the final recommendation filed on May 28, 2019. A redlined version of the amended memorandum is filed separately with confidential status. This correction changes Staff's ultimate recommendation. Staff recommends that the Commission issue an order determining Southwest

Texas' earned rate of return recommended by Staff and categorizing Southwest Texas into Category 2.

III. CONCLUSION

Staff respectfully requests that the Commission issue an order setting Southwest Texas Communications' earned rate of return as the rate of return recommended by Staff and the categorization of Southwest Texas Communications into Category 2.

Date: August 12, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

PUBLIC UTILITY COMMISSION OF TEXAS LEGAL DIVISION

Margaret Uhlig Pemberton Division Director

Rachelle Nicolette Robles Managing Attorney

Joshua Adam Barron State Bar No. 24087146 1701 N. Congress Avenue P.O. Box 13326 Austin, Texas 78711-3326 (512) 936-7235 (512) 936-7268 (facsimile) Joshua.Barron@puc.texas.gov

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CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE

I certify that a copy of this document will be served on all parties of record on August 12, 2019, in accordance with 16 TAC § 22.74.

Joshua Adam Barron